

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 SANA 01218 280751Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 AID-05 IO-13 /095 W
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R 280500Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY SANA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 794
INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
AMEMBASSY MAANA
AMEMBASSY LONDON

S E C R E T SANA 1218

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, SU, YS, MU
SUBJECT: NIMEIRI MEDIATION BETWEEN OMAN AND PDRY

BEGIN SUMMAR: THERE MAY BE AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE, IF
NOT TEMETABLE, ON NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS BETWEEN OMAN
AND PDRY AS A RESULT OF MEDIATION BY SUDANESE PRESIDENT
NIMEIRI. END SUMMARY.

1. AMBASSADOR AND DCM CALLED ON LOCAL SUDANESE
AMBASSADOR ABD AL-MAJID BASHIR AL-AHMADI ON 27 MARCH FOR
VEVIEW OF RECENT RAVELS BY SUDANESE PRESIDENT JAFFAR
NIMEIRI IN SOUTH ARABIA AND HORN OF AGRICA.

2. AHMADI CLAIMS TO HAVE PLAYED CURCUAL ROLE IN
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DESIGN AND EXECUTION OF RECENT EFFORTS OF NIMEIRI TO
MEDIATE BETWEEN OMAN AND PDRY AS WELL AS TO BRING
SOMALIA, PDRY, NORTH YEMEN AND SUDAN INTO NEW RELA-
TIONSHIP TO DEAL WITH POLITICAL EVOLUTION IN LOWER
PART OF RED SEA (LATTER SUBJECT DISCUSSED IN SEPTTEL).

3. ACCORDING TO AHMADI, BOTH PDRY PRESIDENT SALIM

RUBAY'I ALI AND OMANI SULTAN QABOOS HAVE AGREED TIN PRINCIPLE ON "COMPLETE NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS", EXPLORING THE USUAL AGENDA OF TRADE, CULTURAL CONTACTS, FREER MOVEMENT OF PEOPLE, ETC.

4. AHMADI SAID QABOOS SOUTHT THIS AGREEMENT EAGERLY BUT AGREED ONLY AFTER NIMEIRI GOT ASSURANCES FROM SALIM THAT PDRY WOULD GIVE UP NOT ONLY THE PROPAGANDA WAR CONCERNING DHOFAR LIBERATION BUT ALSO WOULD END ALL SUPPORTNQR PFLO AND FOR SUBVERSION IN GULF AREA.SALIM, INCIDENTALLY, HAD LITTLE BUT ILL TO SAY OF SIVIETS, PARTICULARLY IN AID FIELD.

5. ACCORDING TO AHMADI, MINEIRI MADE IT CLEAR TO SALIM THAT PDRY RELATIONS WITH OMAN WERE CURCIAL TO CONTINUED AID AND ACCEPTANCE BY REST OF GULF STATES. AHMADI SAID HE DIDN'T KNOW IF THERE WAS A TIMETABLE FOR EMBASSIES AND OTHER FORMS OF DIRECT CONTACT BETWEEN OMAN AND PDRY; HOWEVER, HE THOUGHT MANY DETAILS OF THIS SORT COULD NOW BE WORKED OUT IN FAIRLY NEAR FUTURE.

COMMENT: AHMADI IS SOURCE WHO HAS BEEN CONSISTENTLY ACCURATE AND HIGHLY PERCEPTIVE IN HIS DEALINGS WITH EMBASSY OFFICIALS OVER PAST TWO YEARS. WE BELIEVE THAT,AS HE CLAIMS, HE DID HAVE MAJOR PART IN DESIGNING MUCH MORE ACTIVE ROLE WHICH SUDANESE HAVE RECENTLY ADOPTED IN QUESTIONS CONCERNING LOWER END OF THE RED SEA. CERTAINLY IN NIMEIRI'S RECENT TRAVELS
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AHMADI WAS EITHER WITH HIM OR ON SIDE TRIPS TO MOGADISCIO, ADEN OR KHARTOUM TO SUPPORT NIMEIRI'S VENTUE. WE DEFER, OF COURSE, TO MUSCAT FOR CONFIRMATION OF REPORTS WHICH AHMADI HAS GIVEN US BUT FOR THE MOMENT WE TEND TO REGARD POSITIVE EVOLUTION IN OMAN--PDRY RELATIONS AS LIKELY AND FAVORABLE DEVELOPMENT. AHMADI DIDN'T SPECIFICALLY SAY SO, BUT IT COULD MEAN EVEN EARLY EXCHANGE OF EMBASSIES BETWEEN PDRY ON ONE HAND AND OMAN AND GULF STATES ON OTHER. IN ANY CASE, WITH THREE CHIEF OF STATE VISITS TO ADEN IN AS MANY WEEKS - ZAYID, NIMEIRI AND SIAD, THE FIRST ARABS TO VISIZ ADENSINCE INDEPENDENCE-- ACCEPTANCE OF PDRY IS GATHERING FORCE. WE THINK THIS WILL WORK AGAINST RADICALS IN SOUTH. AHMADI AGREES, NOTING THAT ABD AL-FATTAH SIMAIL BOYCOTTED ALL FUNCTIONS FOR NIMEIRI AND APPEARS TO SUDANESE TO BE IN WEAK BUT INTRANSIGENT POSITION.
SCOTES

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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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